

Outdoor Report

The week of October, 6th 2014



South Dakota



Wildlife Division

"Serving People, Managing Wildlife"

-
- Resident only Pheasant season runs October 11th – October 13th.
 - Regular Pheasant season starts October 18th and runs until January 4th.
-

Brown County



Fishing Report:

Richmond Lake: Fishing has been slow. Some anglers are catching the occasional Bluegill. **Anglers are reminded that Walleye need to be 15 inches or longer to keep.**

Elm Lake: Anglers are catching Walleye, Crappie and Northern Pike. The bite has been inconsistent lately. **Anglers are reminded that Walleye need to be 15 inches or longer to keep.**

James River: Anglers have been catching Catfish and Bullheads. The Walleye bite has not started this fall.

Elm River: Fishing has been slow lately. Some Catfish have been caught by the bridges.



Hunting Report:

Goose: Hunters have had decent success lately hunting geese. Hunters have had the best success hunting geese in wheat stubble. Scouting is the key to success. The best goose hunting has been on the eastern side of Brown County. Some silage and bean fields have been harvested, providing some field hunting opportunities.

Dove: With the recent cold temperatures, the doves have migrated out of the area.

Duck: Hunters had good success this weekend hunting ducks. Most hunters hunted ducks in the small sloughs over decoys. Hunters were harvesting blue-winged teal, gadwall, redheads, pintails, mallards and some green-winged teal.

Clark County



Fishing Report:

Dry Lake #2: Fishing has really slowed down. There are very few fish, if any.

Dry Lake #1: Little activity.

Swan Lake: Little activity.

Reid Lake: Little activity.

Indian Springs: Fishing continues to be slow. A few fishermen are catching some decent sized Walleye and Perch.



Hunting Report:

Waterfowl: A few areas of the county have some good numbers of geese and ducks staged in them. Most blue-winged teal have left the area. Some ducks are moving in from the north.

Deer: Mornings and evenings seem to be the most active part of the day. A few hunters reported success.

Codington County



Fishing Report:

Lake Kampeska: A couple anglers again this week around Lunkers. Walleye success has been pretty good the last few evenings.

Pelican Lake: No activity.

Goose Lake: Shore fishermen have had good success off the Grover road in the evenings for Walleye and the occasional Perch.

Long Lake: No fishermen this week.

Dry Lake: Still a few boats out on Dry, but success has been limited the last few days. Reports have been slow with a couple Walleye, Perch and Northern.

Grass Lake: No activity.

3rd Ave Pond: Pond was stocked with 1250, 9 to 11 inch Rainbow Trout on Monday.

Stink: A few Walleye from shore are being caught.



Hunting Report:

Goose: Hunting pressure has been very low around the county. Opportunity is out there with bean fields coming out. Most of the geese seem to be holding in the western part of the county and around the city limits of Watertown.

Ducks: Public land hunting opportunity in Codington remains strong through the second week of the season. A few hunters are finding some ducks in the fields, but most of the success so far has come from water hunting.

Pheasant: Youth season is off to a good start with youth seeing better numbers of birds, especially around the Long Lake complex.

Day County



Fishing Report:

Bitter: Anglers are having some success catching Walleye and Perch. Shore fishing has been productive for numerous anglers, as well.

Waubay: The Walleye and Perch bite has slowed.

Reetz: Anglers are catching a few nice Perch, Walleye and Crappie.

Lynn: Anglers are still reporting a decent Walleye and Perch bite.

Enemy Swim: Fishing pressure has slowed, with anglers catching a few Bluegills.

Horseshoe: Some anglers are still fishing Horseshoe and having success catching a few Walleyes.



Hunting Report:

Goose/Duck: Hunters had a successful weekend harvesting waterfowl. Some ducks are starting to feed in bean and silage fields. Opportunity for field hunting ducks will increase as some of the corn starts to come out. Hunters who are putting the time in to scout are having the most luck. I am still seeing mixed bags of ducks being harvested. With the cooler temperatures recently, I would expect to see most of the teal and wood ducks move out of the area.

Deuel County



Fishing Report:

Lake Alice: Shore fishing remains fairly steady on the east end of the lake for Walleye and Northern Pike. There have been a few anglers fishing near the boat ramp on the north side of the lake, but they are primarily only catching Pike. Boat fishermen are picking up a few Perch. The Walleye bite has been best in the late evenings.

Bullhead Lake: No activity.

Round Lake: A few Northern Pike are being caught from shore.

Lake Oliver: A few anglers have been fishing from the pier and catching a few Perch and Bullhead.

School Lake: No activity.

Fish Lake: No activity.

Lake Ketchum: Anglers continue to catch small Perch with the occasional keeper in the mix.

Lake Cochrane: No activity.

Clear Lake: No activity.



Hunting Report:

Goose: There are very good numbers of Canada geese spread throughout the county. Hunters have been having the best luck in the northern half of the county, basically everything north of U.S. Highway 22.

Pheasant: Pheasant hunters should have a fair amount of success during the resident only season. I visited with a good number of youth hunters this past weekend and they reported seeing a decent amount of birds on the public land that they walked.

Duck: Duck numbers are average around the county. Many of the blue-winged teal that were around early have pushed through the area. With the exception of opening day, duck hunting pressure has been slow.

Faulk County



Fishing Report:

Lake Faulkton: No fishing activity observed.



Hunting Report:

Goose: There are a few pockets of birds in the eastern and northern portions of the county. Scouting is key to finding the fields they are feeding in.

Duck: The eastern portion of the county has some good opportunities for duck hunting. There are decent numbers of ducks in the area.

Grant County



Fishing Report:

Big Stone Lake: The Perch bite remains pretty good. Anglers have been primarily focused on the southern half of the lake. Spikes and minnows have been the bait of choice. Nothing has been reported as far as a Walleye bite.

Summit Lake: No reports of activity.

Hunter's Quarry: Fishing pressure has been slow, but the opportunity to catch Trout still exists.



Hunting Report:

Goose: There are good numbers of geese throughout the county. I saw a few flocks of white-fronted geese over the weekend, so the migration is in its early stages.

Pheasant: Pheasant hunters can expect higher numbers of birds this year, but hunting may still be difficult. Hunters should expect to do a lot of walking in order to find birds.

Duck: Duck numbers are average throughout the county. Many of the blue-winged teal have moved out of the area.

Hamlin County



Fishing Report:

Lake Poinsett: Hearing a few reports of people catching Walleye and Perch. It's certainly not a hot bite, but if patient, fish can be caught.

Fedt Slough: A few shore fishermen this week. Reports range from small Perch to nicer Walleye.

Three Buck: No fishing activity.

Clear Lake (Thomas): The hot Perch bite we saw ten days ago has pretty much tapered off and we aren't seeing much for traffic on the lake this week.

Lake Norden: No fishing activity.

Lake Albert: No fishing activity.

Lake Mary/John: No fishing activity.



Hunting Report:

Goose: A few hunters are starting to scout the silage fields in the middle of the county and having good success.

Duck: Duck hunting on public land remains steady. A few hunters are seeing ducks hitting silage fields and bean fields, but most hunters are still focused on water hunting.

Pheasant: A few youngsters took to the public land around Sioux Poinsett and Mickelson for the opening day of youth pheasant season. They reported seeing a decent number of birds, but stated the wind made hunting pretty tough.

Marshall County



Fishing Report:

White Lake: Little to no activity.

Piyas Lake: Walleye and Perch fishing remain decent. Anglers are catching fish in the mornings and evenings.

Opitz Lake: Great Walleye fishing in the morning and evenings. **Reminder: 15 inch minimum on Walleye.**

South Buffalo: Anglers are still catching good numbers of Bluegill, Crappie and the occasional Northern.

Stink Lake: Slow.

Cattail Grade: Slow.

Roy Lake: The Smallmouth Bass and Largemouth Bass bite is decent, but overall, slow.

Clear Lake: Good Smallmouth Bass bite, but fishing for other species has slowed down. **Reminder: If you catch a tagged Smallmouth Bass – do not remove the tag; call the number listed on the tag to assist in the current study being conducted on this lake.**



Hunting Report:

Duck: Over the weekend, we did have a migration of birds into the area. The northern tier of the county seems to be holding the highest numbers of ducks.

Goose: Between 50 to 75% of beans have been harvested. Canada geese are starting to group up in harvested agricultural fields. Scouting is key. Those who are scouting and getting permission for fields are generally doing well. There seems to be plenty of fields out there with huntable numbers of geese.

Deer: The deer have really been on the move with the cool weather. As the corn harvest begins, the deer will become more visible.

McPherson & Edmunds Counties



Fishing Report:

Scatterwood Lake: Very little fishing activity.

Long Lake: No activity.

Eureka Lake: No activity.

Mina Lake: Very little fishing activity.

Anderson Slough: No activity.



Hunting Report:

Goose: McPherson County is not holding very many geese. Most geese in this area can be found from Roscoe to Bowdle and up to the Hosmer area. There is very little hunting pressure. Hunters hunting in wheat fields are doing the best. Silage is still being cut and geese are starting to use these fields.

Dove: Not many around the area.

Grouse: Grouse numbers are low. McPherson County is the best place to try.

Duck: Good numbers of ducks in both counties. The Ipswich to Bowdle area and south of HWY 12 is holding the largest concentration of ducks. Some good pockets of ducks can be found in both counties. There are still a few blue-winged teal in both counties.

Swan: Some swans have already been seen in the Eureka and Long lake areas.

East River Deer: There are still antlerless deer licenses available in Edmunds and McPherson counties.

Sandhill Crane: A few cranes started to show up in McPherson County. The central parts of both counties are seeing the highest number of cranes.

Roberts County



Fishing Report:

Lake Traverse: The White Bass and Catfish bite is very good throughout the lake and Walleye action is slow. The Walleye bite is good off of Mystinka River Bridge and in boats around the bridge, as well.

Dry Wood Lake: Walleye fishing is picking up and Northern Pike bite is good.



Hunting Report:

Dove: Most doves have left the county due to cold weather and wind. There are still a few huntable pockets of birds in the area.

Goose: Numbers are good throughout the county. As more corn gets cut for silage, the opportunity for hunters will open up. Scouting is the key to success.

Duck: There are good numbers of ducks in the county. Most hunters had good luck hunting water due to warm temperatures. Some field hunters did find some birds, but it was slow.

Grouse: Grouse numbers are low, but a few can be found on the coteau.

Spink County



Fishing Report:

Twin Lake: No fishing activity observed.

Mud Lake: No fishing activity observed.

Cottonwood Lake: Anglers are starting to catch a few Walleyes again.

Redfield Lake: No fishing activity observed.

Turtle Creek: No fishing activity observed.

James River: Anglers are catching some Walleyes.



Hunting Report:

Goose: Geese are using silage fields throughout the county. There are still pockets of huntable numbers of birds.

Dove: Due to the cold front, there aren't many doves remaining in the area.

Duck: There are good numbers of ducks in the area. The local ducks are beginning to group up and provide decent opportunities.